

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 15, 17-19, and 29-32 in accordance with the following:

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, comprising:
bringing food into contact with sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage, the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite having a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite substituted with titanium, the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite being sintered at 580 to 660°C ~~for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite;~~
wherein the food is brought into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite by placing the food in a container having an inner surface coated with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite or in a container made of a material containing the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, comprising:
bringing food into contact with sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage, the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite having a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite substituted with titanium, the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite being sintered at 580 to 660°C ~~for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite;~~
wherein the food is brought into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite by wrapping the food in a food wrapping film having a surface coated with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite or in a food wrapping film made of a material containing the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, comprising:
bringing food into contact with sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage,

the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite having a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite substituted with titanium, the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite being sintered at 580 to 660°C ~~for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite;~~

wherein the food is brought into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite by applying the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite to a surface of the food or by adding the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite to the food.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, comprising:
bringing food into contact with sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage, the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite having a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite substituted with titanium, the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite being sintered at 580 to 660°C ~~for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite;~~

wherein the food is brought into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite by bringing the food into contact with tableware having a surface coated with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

20-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the inner surface of the container is coated with a sol-gel solution containing a silica alkoxide and a powder of the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the surface of the food wrapping film is coated with a sol-gel solution containing a silica alkoxide and a powder of the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the surface of the tableware is coated with a sol-gel solution containing a silica alkoxide and a powder of the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

29. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein ~~the storage of~~ the food is performed~~stored~~ without ultraviolet~~light~~ irradiation.

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein ~~the storage of~~

the food is ~~performed~~stored without ~~ultraviolet~~light irradiation.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 18, wherein ~~the storage of~~
the food is ~~performed~~stored without ~~ultraviolet~~light irradiation.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein ~~the storage of~~
the food is ~~performed~~stored without ~~ultraviolet~~light irradiation.